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The reorganization of ORE, begun under General Smith as Director of Central Intelligence in 1950, did not affect the structure of the Geographic Division. There were still the three Branches: namely, Cartography, Map Library, and Map Intelligence.¹ The mission and functions of the Division and its parts also remained approximately the same: "1. coordinates and produces foreign geographic and map intelligence in cooperation with other components of CIA and other government departments and agencies; 2. prepares reports that evaluate the adequacy of map coverage and mapping programs of foreign areas in terms of intelligence requirements; 3. fulfills advisory and research responsibilities for geographic analyses in support of CIA operations and intelligence production; 4. coordinates requirements of the government mapping organizations for the procurement of foreign maps and charts and, by maintaining an extensive library of maps on foreign areas, provides map reference services for the CIA and other IAC agencies; 5. provides for cartographic advice, the compilation and construction of special intelligence maps and graphic services in

¹These will be taken up later in detail.

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"State-
ent", April 7, 1951,
(Secret) in ORR
ographic Division
lder, 1951-52 in
e of CIA Records

support of CIA and other IAC intelligence production and presentation."²

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Any changes in structure that may have occurred during the period from 1950 to 1952 were only on a regional basis when the subdivisions of the branches were reorganized geographically.³

³Interview with

March 31, 1955 in
Historical Staff
files.

In order to carry out its duties, the Map (or Geographic) Division has certain basic needs for geographical and locational data in the form of textual materials for all foreign countries. The data collected is for use in the preparation as well as the evaluation of maps. Thus the principal topics on which information is desired include such a wide range as: 1. international and internal boundaries, territorial claims, and administrative structure of foreign countries; 2. Transportation and communications data; 3. Agricultural information; 4. industrial and other economic information; 5. population and other sociological data; 6. physical geography.

⁴"Geographic Division

Requirements, "Geo-

graphic Intelligence Requirements of the Map Division," Jan. 1951 (Confidential), pp. 1-4, in ORR/DG folder *this* [redacted]

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⁷Memorandum from
[redacted] Chief
D/G to Executive,
ORR on Committee
Membership, Feb.
26, 1951, in ORR/DG
folder, CIA R.C.
(Confidential)

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The first major structural changes in the Geographic Division since its founding, occurred on August 24, 1952 when the entire Office of Research and Reports was further reorganized.⁸ Geography became one of the three Areas established and was entitled Geographic Research Area. The three Branches now had Division status, i. e. the Map Library Division, Cartography Division, and Geography Division. The Map Library Division was further subdivided into Procurement, Reference, and Processing Branches; the Cartography and Geography Divisions, on a geographic basis. The Inter-Agency Map Procurement

⁹See below, pp. 10- Coordination Committee⁹ was retained with the same functions and 11.

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unchanged. The matter of reports, projects, and editorial liaison with Reports Division in the light of the new organizational realignment led to the establishment of a Projects Review Committee of the Geographic Area. This committee consisting of the Chief, Geographic Research as chairman, the Chiefs of the three Divisions, and the Assistant to the Geography Division would meet weekly to review and accept or reject, subject to the approval of the Assistant Director, Research and Reports, all requested project proposals. Upon receiving

¹⁰More could be added here on procedures. the approval of the AD/RR, the project was officially initiated.¹⁰

This committee would also maintain a working liaison between the Reviewing and Editing Staff, D/G, and the Reports Division, and OCD in the matters of distribution of Geographic Reports and periodic

¹¹Joint Memorandum to AD/RR from the Chiefs, D/GG and D/R, production reports.¹¹

"Joint D/GG-D/R

Recommendation for the Establishment of Project Initiation, Editorial Liaison, and Processing of Final Reports for Publication in the Geography Division," (Secret), Sept. 22, 1952; Memo to AD/RR

from Ch, GR, "Project Initiation within the Geographic Area,"

Oct. 7, 1952, (Secret) of intelligence maps and will furnish graphics support to appropriate

The newly-created Chief, Geographic Research, was made respon-

sible interdepartmentally in map intelligence matters to "provide

centrally for the production and coordination of geographic and map

Intelligence. He will provide for the compilation and construction

He will also

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provide for the procurement of maps on foreign areas and for related

12 [redacted]
D/G, "Suggested Revision of Statement of Mission for D/G,"
Memo to Executive, O/RR,
(Secret), 2 May 1951, Although coordination with other government agencies exists to
ORR/DG folder, CIA
Records Center.

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a large extent in the Map Library, [redacted]

13 The Report for the
Clark Committee has a

and the [redacted] careful attention is paid to division of duties,¹³

25X1A slightly different
version, with emphasis
on the coordinating
work of the
Division. This version
was given by M

and in general, the primary purpose of the Geographic Research Area

is to fill the needs of the various departments of CIA. The only

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exception to this is the work that is done for [redacted]

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the fact that the largest percentage of their work is for CIA, these
figures are liable to be misleading. They cannot be considered too
accurate for two reasons: 1. the large increase in number of
pieces completed has been due to cutting down in size of the maps,
models, and other items produced. Formerly, a greater amount of
man-hours was necessary to produce one article; now, since a smaller
size is being made, naturally, less time is required to finish each

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one. 2. Reclassification of the origins of requests for its services; that is, many requests for geographic services come through a middleman in CIA. In the breakdown of the origin of requests filled,

they are listed through CIA as the ultimate destination of the

¹⁴This last inaccuracy will be corrected beginning with FY 1955 by a new system of destination designation in which the final group benefitted will be the one listed. (This para- Research Area also has a report series which were rearranged in the graph should perhaps be omitted). Inter-view [redacted] finished product.¹⁴

In addition to filling specific requests, the Geographic Research Area also has a report series which were rearranged in the graph should perhaps be omitted). Inter-view [redacted] 1952 changes so as to "differentiate between those reports that can Mar. 31, 1955.

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be distributed according to a standard distribution list and are major research reports, and those that result from specific requests

¹⁵Op. cit., "Joint Memo of 22 Sept. 1952, page 2. See footnote 11 above. Intelligence Report."¹⁵ Their regular publications are the Map Intel-

ligence Review, MR-35; Map Intelligence Review (Secret), MR-35S;

Geographic Intelligence Report (standard distribution only), CIA/RR-G-1;

Geographic Intelligence Report (limited and special distribution only),

CIA/RR-GR-1; Memorandum (in response to internal requests), G/I-1;

¹⁶ Ibid.

Memorandum (in response to external requests), G/E-1, NIS Chapter IX.¹⁶

Their personnel policies of which they are very proud, warrant

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some attention. The group has always been a rather tightly knit

operation in this regard. Stability of personnel, many of whom entered

the group when it was in OSS, and a comprehensive training program

¹⁷The principal reasons why personnel leave are for marriage, maternity, or upgrading within the Agency. are probably responsible for its consistently high performance rate.¹⁷

[] said Each Division has had a long-established, extensive training program that he could not recall in fifteen years, any example of outright resignation from the Agency in the Geography Division. See the exact duties expected of him. Furthermore, by additional regional interview, op. cit.

study and intensive language training, personnel are encouraged to

increase their professional competence to better serve the needs of

the Agency for geographic intelligence. Finally, there seems to be

a certain mobility within the group so that each employee has a

background of well-rounded experience in all phases of the Division's

¹⁸ Ibid. work.¹⁸

Taking the organization and duties of the individual division,

it is interesting to note ~~in training~~ that in all the years of its

existence in the Government, the titles of Cartography, Map Library

¹⁹See below. and Photo Intelligence¹⁹ have never changed. However, the term Map

Intelligence causes some confusion since it has been at various times,

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called Geographic Intelligence, Map Intelligence, and Map Infor-

²⁰See Interview, op.
cit. mation.²⁰

The Cartography Division is composed of the following Branches:

USSR Satellites Compilation, Far East Compilation, Europe/Africa

Compilation Branches, the Development and Construction Branch,

²¹This one has recently
been transferred to
OSI.

Graphics Branch,²¹ and the Special Support Branch. The last named

was established in September 1951 and assigned space and responsibil-

²²Possibly this remark
should be omitted

²⁵Since this is covert, it is The Cartography Division provides the

Agency and the State Department with cartographic support and, to

a degree, with visual aid support. They are the biggest producers

of intelligence maps in the country and have more geographers numer-

ically than all other agencies, government or non-government, com-

bined. Over the years they have expanded not only in numbers of

items produced, but more important, in filling the needs of a greater

²³For facts and figures
see the "Report for
the Clark Committee," number of CIA units, with an especially marked increase for DD/P.²³
copy in Historical Staff
files.

The type of map produced has gradually developed into a medium

to small size map aimed at supporting a specific project. A current

one has been the preparation of a series of base maps for the NIS

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program. Maps, cartograms, charts, visual aids and graphic items of many types are produced in support of the Agency components and the

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Regarding the personnel of this Division, they feel the training program, in operation since fall 1950, consisting of eight weeks

of concentrated training in techniques and procedures, is a notable

²⁴Report for the
Clark Committee,
Chapter VI, p. 4.

success.²⁴ Occasionally, members of this group have attended several

international mapping conferences for CIA interests; and, the Chief

of the Division represents the Agency on the Board of Geographic

Names.²⁵

²⁵See below p. 27 F.

The Map Library is another of the early components of the Geographic Division. It is one place in which there is the clearly defined duty of coordination as such, with other agencies and departments. The main objectives of the Map Library are the maintenance of an up-to-date library of foreign intelligence maps and related materials, and the coordination of map procurement activities for the mapping agencies of the U. S. Government through the medium of

²⁶See below p. 11 f. an IAMPCC.²⁶

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It is necessary to emphasize that the Map Library is concerned primarily with current maps only. In this connection, the library has one of the largest collections, other than the Library of Congress, of foreign maps in this country. CIA handles requests for other government agencies because, although the individual departments have map libraries, they tend to specialize in what is needed at that time, geared to departmental responsibilities. Nevertheless, the largest need is in CIA. However, maps that would only be of interest to the Army or Navy, for example, are not kept by this library but instead are turned over to the department concerned.

Possibly the most interesting part of this Division would be the group established to carry out the second objective of the Map Library--the Inter-Agency Map Procurement Coordination Committee. This coordinating function^{of the Map Library has}/only developed since coming to CIA; hence, the Committee has existed since 1947. [Recently, in the Clark Report, entire responsibility for the Map Procurement Program, including policy determination and professional direction has been transferred from the Office of Chief, Geographic Research, to the Map Library

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Division.⁷ Strictly speaking, this is an "ad hoc" committee, never

officially recognized but essential to the coordination of foreign

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[] Interview,
op. cit.; Memorandum
of Feb. 26, 1951,
op. cit.

map procurement.²⁷

The Committee performs just what its title says, a joint map procurement effort. The members include in addition to CIA, the Army Map Service, Aeronautical Chart and Information Center, Hydrographic Office, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Geological Survey, Library of Congress, and the Department of the Interior. The various members submit their foreign map requirements ~~their foreign map requirements~~ to this Committee which in turn sorts out duplication so that there will not be ten separate requests/^{made}for the same map to a foreign government. The list of requests is passed to the Special Assistant for Maps, Department of State (formerly Chief, Geographic

²⁸See above pp. 2-3. Research, currently to Chief, Map Library Division). The desired

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maps are secured []

countries²⁸ and also through geographical agreements with foreign nations and commercial mapping agencies. Usually seven or more copies are requested and these come back to the Map Library for

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distribution to Army, Navy, State, etc. In conjunction with this procurement, the Map Library publishes a weekly list of the joint map acquisitions by all government agencies.

As another aspect of coordination, the CIA maintains a current card catalogue of all maps in the various departmental libraries.

Then, among the members of the IAMPCC there is an exchange of these cards on the content of each library. By such methods--the Committee and the system of exchanging cards--a tremendous amount of duplication in the Government is eliminated.

The Geography Division, otherwise known as Map Intelligence, concentrates on supplying evaluated map analyses and interpretations to various governmental consumers. These services were used in preparing JANIS and later in Chapter IX of the National Intelligence Survey. The Geographic Division like the Cartography Division is divided into regional areas which permits intense concentration on the geographic character of regions as well as the map coverage and map intelligence concerned with those regions.

In 1951, there was initiated a new type of work--that of

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29 In an exchange of 25X1C memoranda, August 4 and 10, not seen in this study.

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29

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the temporary services of a member of their staff to assist in an

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urgent project relating to [REDACTED]. This assign-

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ment continued until May 1951 when [REDACTED] Chief, Geographic

Division, complained to the AD/RR that the character of this man's

work and the review of it was unknown in sufficient detail by

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[REDACTED] his supervisor. [REDACTED] suggested to the OPC representative

that this work be formalized as a project. At this, OPC had mentioned

(SAC)

that the Strategic Air Command, while using CIA for these studies,

was reported to be doing almost identical studies elsewhere. In

other words, the question arose, to what extent should CIA do this

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type of work. If a major part is to be undertaken within CIA, [REDACTED]

would prefer "to have full CIA responsibility delegated to ORR in

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order that we could deal directly with SAC in the preparation of

such studies." 30

Apparently, this question was debated throughout the summer by

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OPC.

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with studies supporting detailed operational requirements.

A special staff in 1952 began to concentrate its efforts on the determination of Soviet capabilities in Cartography, Geodesy and Photogrammetry. In connection with this type of work, the Division was already sponsoring a research program at the Mapping and Charting Research Laboratory of Ohio State University Research Foundation. The results have been the production of some important basic intelligence reports and some data used to contribute to a National Intelligence Estimate on Soviet Guided Missile capabilities.

The Division also publishes monthly the Geographic Intelligence Review (formerly the Map Intelligence Review). Since 1950, when its chief work "consisted of the preparation and coordination of NIS Chapters IX, the publication of the Map Intelligence Review, the preparation of boundary studies and reports on mapping institutions, their present duties have expanded to include the continued production of NIS, the monthly publication of the Geographic Intelligence Review which grew out of the Map Intelligence Review, the escape and evasion geographies for the military, several other types

for DD/P area, and detailed regional analyses on the Soviet Bloc.

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As an outgrowth of this work, D/G was given the responsibility for giving an orientation course to ORR personnel on the "use of maps as

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³² Memo from [] to
AD/RR, Attn: of Mr.

an intelligence source and on the basic geographic characteristics

[], "Proposed of the areas included in the Soviet Bloc." ³²

Internal ORR Training
in Geographic and Map
Intelligence," (Con-
fidential), 5 May
1952, in ORR/DG 1952
folder in care of CIA/
Records Center.

The newest unit in the Geographic Research Area (Geographic

Division), was set up towards the end of the Smith Administration

and was not the result of any reorganization of ORR or the Geographic

or the Smith Administration for that matter.

Research Area. Prior to the establishment of the Photo Intelligence

(D/GP)

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Division/in 1952, CIA used the services of the Photo Interpretation

³³ Memo to AD/RR from

Unit of the Reconnaissance Branch, Directorate of Intelligence,

[] Consultant, "Use of U. S. Air Force." ³³ In late 1951 and early 1952, however, it became
Photo-Interpretation
and Photo-Intelligence

by CIA," (Top Secret) evident for numerous reasons that new arrangements would have to
April 11, 1952, p. 1.

The two organizations

that produce photo- be made in order to satisfy CIA requirements. The Air Force Unit
interpretations in

Washington area and

available to CIA were: was "eager to continue supplying routine or special photo inter-
the Air Force (PIS/AF)

and the Photo-Inter-

pretation Center, pretation reports to CIA" but high priority Air Force projects were

Bureau of Aeronautics,

U.S. Navy (PIC/USN).

CIA used PIS/AF almost increasing in such numbers that they might be compelled to curtail
exclusively because

of the heavy require-

ments placed on PIC their services to CIA for whom they were already stretching a point. ³⁴
by the Navy.

1.S. # 70821

³⁴Ibid, Appendix 1,
p. 2.

The large demand of ORR, OCI, and OSI for photo intelligence was not being met. Moreover, their T/O was frozen, thereby increasing the work load on an already insufficient number of personnel. The major reason, however, was in the very nature of the report that the Air Force produced for CIA. These reports were just photo interpretations and not photo intelligence which CIA required. Photo interpretation reports give the result of careful study of aerial photographs by skilled personnel and are based primarily upon the evidence presented by the photographs whereas photo intelligence reports are the results of a synthesis of skilled photo interpretation with other intelligence material available about a particular installation or group of installations.³⁵

³⁵Ibid, p. 1.

As a result, "the use of photo intelligence in support of CIA activities had not been properly exploited.... adequate analysis of this air photography is dependent upon availability of trained experts in photo analysis and interpretation with experience and understanding of the specialized fields of interest being served....many of these requirements necessitate techniques and skills not found in the photo interpretation units of the

Department of Defense and frequently are so sensitive that the

photo analysis must be restricted to the Agency....[finally] photo

interpretation work within the Department of Defense is pointed...

toward target selection and...is very limited in value for use in

³⁶ Memo from Robert Amory, Jr.
to Project Review
Committee, "Staffing meeting CIA requirements."³⁶
for Photo-Intelli-
gence within ORR," pp.1-2,
(Secret), 15 July
1952, in ORR folder
Geographic Division
1952, in care of CIA
Records Center.

25X1A

The original remedy suggested [] in his draft report

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detached for duty with this Unit, or CIA funds allotted to the Unit

³⁷ The draft of the
[] Report is in
the ORR folder
"Photo Intelligence
Division," and marked
Secret. The final
report (marked Top
Secret) was removed
to Top Secret Con-
trol. TS.# 70821

to pay for additional photo interpreters."³⁷ Apparently neither

course seemed to offer the solution because in his final report,

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[] recommended "...to have available in CIA a small team of ade-

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quately equipped skilled photo-interpreters to act with analysts....

[] final Report,
op. cit. in footnote [their services [should be] available to all parts of CIA."³⁸ Whereas
33, Appendix III, p. 3.

the former solutions would resolve the problem of sufficient personnel,

the advantage of direct cooperation between photo-interpreter and

analyst in support of CIA projects would be lost. He finally recom-

mended that they augment the group at PIS/AF only if administrative

conditions prevented CIA from establishing a small group of

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³⁹ Ibid, Appendix III, photo-interpreters within the Agency. ³⁹
p. 4.

The question of where within CIA would be the logical place to
25X1A
establish this new unit was taken up. [] felt that the best spot
would be Graphics Register because they had charge over photographic
documents. On the other hand, since the services of such a unit were
25X1A
directly needed by ORR analysts, [] believed that this being the

⁴⁰ Ibid, "Recommendations." area of greatest need, the unit should be put here. ⁴⁰ "D/G is suggested
as a suitable place for a Photo-Intelligence Branch because it already
maintains certain centralized intelligence production facilities; m
members of D/G represent CIA on the Committee and Panel of the Research
and Development Board concerned with the development of photo-inter-
pretation keys; a member of D/G participates in the meetings of the
Inter-Agency Graphic Research Coordination Group which is concerned
with availability of aerial and ground photography; D/G coordinated
requirements for indices of commercial aerial photography on foreign
areas and distributes such information received through OO channels;
D/G analysts keep abreast of the extent and quality of air-photo
coverage for mapping purposes in all foreign areas; finished

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photo-analysis often results in maps and map overlays; and geographers,

as well as specialists in other fields, have long utilized photo-

interpretation as a research tool and are currently participating in

⁴¹ Memo to AD/RR from

25X1A

Chief, D/G, []

"Suggestion for the development of air-photo keys."⁴¹

Photo-Intelligence

Facility," p.2, (Secret),

in ORR folder, Photo

Intelligence Division

in care of CIA Records

Center. (7 May 1952) photo analysis undertaken by the Air Force was still the chief problem

Continued inability to obtain complete information desired from

25X1A

in a memo from []

Chief, D/G to Mr. Robert Amory, then

AD/RR (May 1952), bringing forward a definite plan for the establish-

ment of a "competently staffed Photo-Intelligence Branch within the

⁴² Ibid, pp. 1-3.

Agency."⁴² Subsequently, this solution was transmitted to the DD/I

in a memo from Mr. Amory on May 21, 1952, which reviewed the argument

⁴³ Memo from R. Amory

AD/RR, to DD/I,

"Photo-Analysis,"

21 May 1952, (Secret),

in ORR folder, Photo

Intelligence Division,

in care of CIA Records

Center.

⁴⁴ Memo, July 15, 1952/Intelligence but as an active contributor to such intelligence."⁴⁴

op. cit., Annex B,

p. 1.

Placing it in ORR meant that the photo analysts and the substantive

analysts (who were really the main consumers) could work together in

close association, supplementing each other in the recognition of

significant detail. Here was one of the major difficulties in using

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the facilities of the Department of Defense solved; photography could be made to contribute so much more to the final intelligence product. In ORR it would aid in (a) geographic analysis of specific areas involving the study of terrain in its broadest sense; (b) the analysis of industrial and other economic installations. The

Geographic Area could use it to support a series of detailed area

25X1C

studies depending on proper photo intelligence, i. e. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] the Economic Area of ORR needed it for the economic

information to be gained from photographs. As for other CIA com-

ponents, OSI required details on the research and development acti-

vities of the Soviet Union, obtainable by photographs; OCI and DDP

had similar needs. ⁴⁵

⁴⁵ Ibid, Annex A, pp. 1-3.

A month later, ^{25X1A} [REDACTED] further proposed the "Coordination of

Photo Intelligence Effort" by setting up a committee to "improve the

^{45a} Memo from O. ^{25X1A} [REDACTED] production and quality of photo interpretation for intelligence Chief, D/G, to AD/RR, ^{45a} "Coordination of purposes." The Photo Intelligence Committee would be composed of Photo Intelligence Effort," (Secret), June 20, 1952, n. 1, "representatives from the military services, for the purpose of in ORR folder, Photo Intelligence Division, care of CIA Records fostering maximum use of photo interpretation facilities to meet Center.

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national intelligence requirements and, of major importance, for formulating recommendations for air photographic missions to fulfill intelligence rather than solely operational, requirements." ⁴⁶ "CIA sponsorship of such a committee will materially aid the prestige of all photo interpretation units in the Washington area and will avoid

⁴⁶ Ibid, Annex B, pp. 1-3.

⁴⁷ Memo f ^{25X1A} [] inter-service frictions." ⁴⁷ Its specific methods to avoid this June 20, 1952, op. cit., p. 1.

friction would be to coordinate the efforts of photo interpretation producers, mutual assistance in specific problems, etc. The Committee would concern itself with initial problems, such as, setting up a uniform reporting system for Photo Interpretation Reports, to set up

⁴⁸ Ibid, pp. 2-3. minimum training standards to be met, etc. ⁴⁸

The project was formally approved on August 4, 1952, upon recommendation of the CIA Project Review Committee in a meeting on

July 25, 1952. The Division was officially established by November ^{25X1A}

⁴⁹ The ORR notice, #R-70-3, was not issued until November 2, 1953, but the Agency never issued one until 1955 (per telephone conversation with

⁴⁹ Its planned strength for 1953 [] of which the first arrivals were on November 1, 1952, with the full quota being

[] reached by May 1, 1953. [Because the Photo Intelligence Division of D/GP.)

^{25X1A}

was not fully operating during the Smith Administration, a further

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evaluation of it is not made in this study.⁷

From time to time problems have arisen in the Division which seem to have been resolved satisfactorily. One such problem was the question of placing the Graphics Branch. For some time in the Agency there was a group called the Graphics Branch which had been shifted from one office to another. The Graphics Branch, under the Administrative Services Office, was a small unit which made all maps and graphic material in CIA prior to the time that the Geographic Division

⁵⁰ See above. came over from the 25X1A [] ⁵⁰ 1950-1951 At this time/more than half

⁵¹ Memo from 25X1A [] of its workload was in fulfillment of OIC, Training, O/SI, O/CI, O/CD, AD/RR, to Advisor for Management, "Increase Administration, NSC, and NSRB requirements." ⁵¹ Because they worked in Geographic Division, ORR, Table of Organization, "Feb. 10, 1951, (Secret), in ORR folder, Geographic Division, 1951-1952, CIA Records Center. for the Agency as a whole and they did not fit in logically with any special group, no one wanted to join with them just for administrative purposes. Periodically, the Geographic Division had been approached regarding possible placement of the Graphics Section within its organization. However, they always expressed unwillingness

⁵² Memo from 25X1A [] to Chief, S/PN, O/RR, "Placement of Graphics and Art Section CIA," Feb. 3, 1951, (Confidential), ORR work was neither cartographic nor geographic in character.⁵² to such a transfer because a "large part of the Graphics Section's

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folder, Geographic
Division, 1951-1952,

care of CIA Records In a memo to Millikan, AD/RR on January 18, 1951, the Advisor for
Center; also, see

Interview with [redacted],

op. cit.

Management apparently suggested, possibly as a final resort, that they

⁵³ Advisor for Manage-

ment to AD/RR, "In- should put the group in the Publications Branch, ORR." ⁵³ (The Advisor
crease in Publications

Branch, ORR, T/O,"

Jan. 18, 1951, (Secret), for Management wanted the group in ORR, but the main discussion

ORR folder, Geogra-

phic Division, 1951

1952, CIA Records

Center. was where, in ORR.) Before this change could be effected, the D/G

finally yielded because "it has become increasingly evident however,

that certain advantages to CIA would accrue from a transfer of this

⁵⁴ Memo of Feb. 3, 1951, section to the Cartography Branch, D/G...also understood that your

op. cit.,

Staff is desirous of recommending such action." ⁵⁴ Furthermore, it

was to be agreed that D/G would have the same "substantive control

over graphics and art work performed for all requesters that it now

⁵⁵
Ibid.

has over cartographic production. ⁵⁵ Thereupon, the AD/RR suggested

to the Advisor for Management that the group be transferred to the

Cartography Branch rather than to the Publications Branch as stated

⁵⁶ Of January 18, 1951, in the previous memo. ⁵⁶ The reasons given were that the work of the
see above. For

this memo, see foot-
note 51.

Section is "basically dissimilar" to the Publications Branch, and

direction should rest on a branch with similar functions.

By Notice [redacted] 1951, the Geographic Division

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27

officially "took them in" administratively. This could not be called an actual "merger" in that now there was one unit where formerly there had been two. Each continued to do its own work. Also, when it became associated with the Geographic Division, the Graphics

25X1A

⁵⁷ See [] Inter- Branch was raised to full-fledged division status by the same order.⁵⁷ view, op. cit., p. 2.; While not within the scope of this account, it may be noted that Another such difficulty concerned the Board of Geographic several months ago, the Graphics Division/ Names in the Department of Interior. Early in 1951, the Department was transferred to and merged with the Graphics unit of OCI. served notice on all its customers for foreign names, that it could

⁵⁸ Letter from the Director of the Division of Geography, Dept. of Interior to Dr. [] CIA Representative on the BGN names were most important (the Bureau of the Budget could not see dated 13 Feb. 1951, (Confidential), in ORR folder, Geographic Division, 1951-1952, in CIA Records Center. not continue this research on foreign geographic names because of a cut in appropriations.⁵⁸ For the work of their department domestic why they should be concerned with foreign names); and if something must be eliminated, it was to be foreign names, a less vital service

25X1A

and, strictly speaking, somewhat outside their province. They believed that CIA could take over this job very logically as a "central intelligence" function. However, CIA refused, saying that they were satis-

⁵⁹ Letter to Dr. Meredith Burrill, Director, Division of Geography, Dept. Interior, from [] 12 Apr. 1951 25X1A (Confidential), ORR/PG folder. to continue.⁵⁹ filed with present arrangements and preferred to allow the situation

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Public law 242, cited in this letter, definitely gives Interior the authority for both

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This was not the only reason for the Agency's refusal. There had not been too much cooperation among the various agencies in supporting the program of the Board. For example, the Air Force persisted in maintaining a separate service for names in spite of Interior's legal right to carry out this work. 25X1A recommended

25X1A

60 Memo from to Executive, ORR, "Foreign Names Staff Work for/to guarantee their cooperation. 60 Moreover, standardizing foreign the BGN," 1 Mar. 1951, (Secret), ORR folder.

names was a necessity for CIA and other intelligence groups working on the NIS program, but this need was not restricted to them alone.

What was the final result was not indicated in the materials used in this paper. As far as could be seen, CIA had refused, and the matter stayed there.

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